



Bond Development Process for the City of Austin

On October 6, 2011, the Austin City Council established a Bond Election Advisory Task Force (Task Force) to identify and prioritize bond funding for capital projects that will advance the vision identified by the Imagine Austin comprehensive planning process. The Task Force, City staff, and the community will work together over the next several months to identify and review potential projects and programs for future bond funding. In May 2012, the Task Force will provide recommendations for the City Council to consider when developing a potential bond package.

In a bond package, the City borrows money to pay for projects such as buildings, streets, parks, or other facilities. These types of projects are often called Capital Improvement Projects. In consideration of limited funding resources, Austin like other cities must prioritize the capital projects that are constructed over the next few years. The Bond Election Advisory Task Force is tasked with reviewing the various projects and programs being proposed for consideration in a bond package. The Task Force and City will be calling on Austinites at various points during the Bond Development process to bring their voices to the table.

Opportunities for Public Participation

Opportunities will be provided for all Austinites to provide input and participate in the bond development process, including:

- **Speak Week(s)** – Starting in January 2012, the City will set up booths across Austin and solicit public feedback on guiding principles for the Bond Development process.
- **Bond Development Open House – February 7, 2012** at the Palmer Events Center - for citizens to learn more about the bond development process and guiding principles. Free parking, light refreshments and live music from Austin-area musicians.
- **Community Meetings/Workshops** – Meetings to review potential projects and seek public feedback on how potential bond dollars should be spent, if approved by the voters. Meetings tentatively scheduled for February/March, 2012 and Summer 2012.
- **Citizen Communications** – Opportunities available at every Task Force meeting and other public meetings where Bond Development is an agenda item.
- **SpeakUpAustin.org** – An online community to ask questions and share thoughts.
- **Social Media** – Informational postings and opportunities for dialogue will be made available via the City's Twitter (#ATXBD) and Facebook accounts.
- **Email** – Written correspondence will be received at bonddevelopment@austintexas.gov
- **Hotline (Voicemail & Text)** – Questions and comments will be taken 24/7 at (512) 539-0060.
- **Centralized Website** - All information including: materials, meeting dates, events and links to additional information, as well as opportunities for public input are available at www.AustinTexas.gov/BondDevelopment.
- **Urban Rail** – Have an interest in Urban Rail? Visit www.austinstrategicmobility.com for the latest updates or send an email to info@austinstrategicmobility.com.

